

Six Bells Communities First
Ty Ebbw Fach
Chapel Road,
Six Bells.
Blaenau Gwent
NP13 2ND

Peter Adamson
9 Hafod Fan Terrace
Six Bells
Abertillery
NP13 2Q

28/05/2012

Re: Statement of common ground between Peter Adamson and Six Bells Communities First over proposals to build houses and a primary school on the Six Bells colliery site.

Following a meeting on Tuesday 22nd May 2012 between Mair Sheen and Steve Jones of Six Bells Communities First and local resident Mr Peter Adamson, with regard to the forthcoming Local Development Plan Examination (Inspector Vincent Maher MA), both parties had common ground on the following:

1. That the Six Bells Colliery Site – middle and lower plateaus should remain an open and undeveloped green space in order that local residents and visitors to the Guardian Statue can roam freely about the site for recreation, leisure and tourism purposes.
2. That plans to have a housing development on the upper plateau would not be sympathetic with the memorial function of the statue, being so close to the statue itself, and that the proposed development would impede full public access to views of the statue. If any development does take place on the upper plateau then the development of a primary school should be undertaken.
3. That plans for a primary school on the lower plateau would add to the possibility of further restrictions to movement about the site. Any such development should take into account access to Guardian and not impede upon such access.
4. That there already exists a site for a new school on Aberbeeg Road at the periphery of the site which would be more appropriate (Upper plateau). It seems perverse to ignore this former school site in preference for a new nearby site which will impact on the recreational capacity of the lower plateau.
5. Every effort should be made to consolidate the current leisure, recreation and tourism function of the Guardian statue site. Plans for a school and a housing development are not consistent with this function, and in fact undermine it. All developments should take into account the negative impacts upon these funded projects. Development should enhance and build upon these successes not undermine them.
6. I believe therefore that the council plans for the site as laid out in the Local Development Plan and Focussed Changes are unsound because they are in conflict with developments that have already taken place on the site.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. Peter Adamson.

